

which can be formed in the tubes. Applicants submit that the constrictions 15 or the tubes with constrictions 15 receive ink from the ink supply duct 17 and therefore, constrictions 15 are communicated with each other by the ink supply duct 17 (Feenstra, Figure 1). As such, Feenstra does not disclose all of the features as set forth in independent claims 1 and 10.

Applicants respectfully submit that Feenstra does not teach or suggest every element of claims 1 and 10 and request that the rejection be withdrawn. Claims 2-4, 8, and 19 depend from claim 1, and claims 11-14, 17, and 20 depend from claim 10, and are therefore allowable based at least on their dependence on the independent claims.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,047,790 to Cowger et al. ("Cowger") in view of Feenstra. The Examiner contends that the it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Cowger with Feenstra to achieve the present invention. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Independent claims 1 and 10 have been amended to recite "wherein the capillary tubes are not communicated with each other". Applicants submit that the argument above regarding Feenstra is applicable in traversing this rejection. Additionally, Cowger does not supply the missing teaching or suggestion. Thus, none of the cited prior art teaches or suggests Applicants' claimed elements and that, therefore, the claims overcome the prior art.

In addition, Applicants submit that Cowger discloses a controlled capillary ink containment for inkjet pens comprising a print head 18, a reservoir 12, and capillary members 10. However,

CONCLUSION

Each and every point raised in the Office Action dated August 2, 2005 has been addressed on the basis of the above amendments and remarks. In view of the foregoing it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance and it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered and that all pending claims be allowed and the case passed to issue.

If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

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Respectfully submitted,

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